

## WORSHIP ARTS LEADERSHIP

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*WAM Staff 2017-2018*





Susan Owens – Worship Arts Coordinator

Susan grew up in Henderson, NC and she and her husband, Brad, have lived in Kingsport, TN for over 20 years. Susan began working at Celebration Church in the main office as an Administrative Assistant in 2006 and, in 2012 Susan added the responsibilities of the Financial Assistant for the Worship Arts Ministry. In 2017, Susan added additional



responsibilities for the Worship Arts Ministry as the Worship Arts Coordinator. Susan likes to communicate and connect people so visions and plans can become worship. Her desire is to be used by God in ways that will show others the love He has for them. This will bring them into true worship with Him!

Susan loves spending time with her hubby, sunflowers and butterflies, and making people smile!! She thinks God is who He says He is, Jesus is the Way, the Truth and the Life and the Holy Spirit is the true Comforter!! What else can a girl ask for!!

Contact: [susan@cctri.org](mailto:susan@cctri.org)

Michelle Russell – Music & Dance Coordinator, Tap 2 & 3 Lead Teachers, & Flute Lead Teacher

As Dance and Music Coordinator for Celebration Church Worship Arts Ministry, my goal is to encourage and support our growing staff. I have seen God's hand in bringing us fifteen new Worship Arts staff members this summer and I can't wait to see how God uses each of these gifted men and women to bring the presence and power of God into the arts in order to transform His people.

God began teaching me about His creative nature when I was three years old and started my first dance class in Cleveland, Ohio. Over many years of learning tap, jazz, acrobats and ballet I discovered that dance was a way to bring joy to others and to help them. I continued dancing all the way through college and did some "liturgical dance" in my student parish at Michigan State University. After that, dance was a private form of worship for me for many years until Celebration Church Dance Ministry/ Worship Arts Ministry began in 2003. I have taught dance for over 18 years and continue to learn joyful ways to express my gratitude to the Lord for all that He has done for me.

I remember the moment I laid eyes on my first flute. It was beautiful and I had no idea, as a nine year old, that it would become a lifelong vocation. As a teen I knew I wanted to continue studying music but I also wanted to help people. I learned about the profession of Music Therapy and knew it was perfect for me. I received my music degree from Michigan State University and became a Registered Music Therapist around the same time that I became a

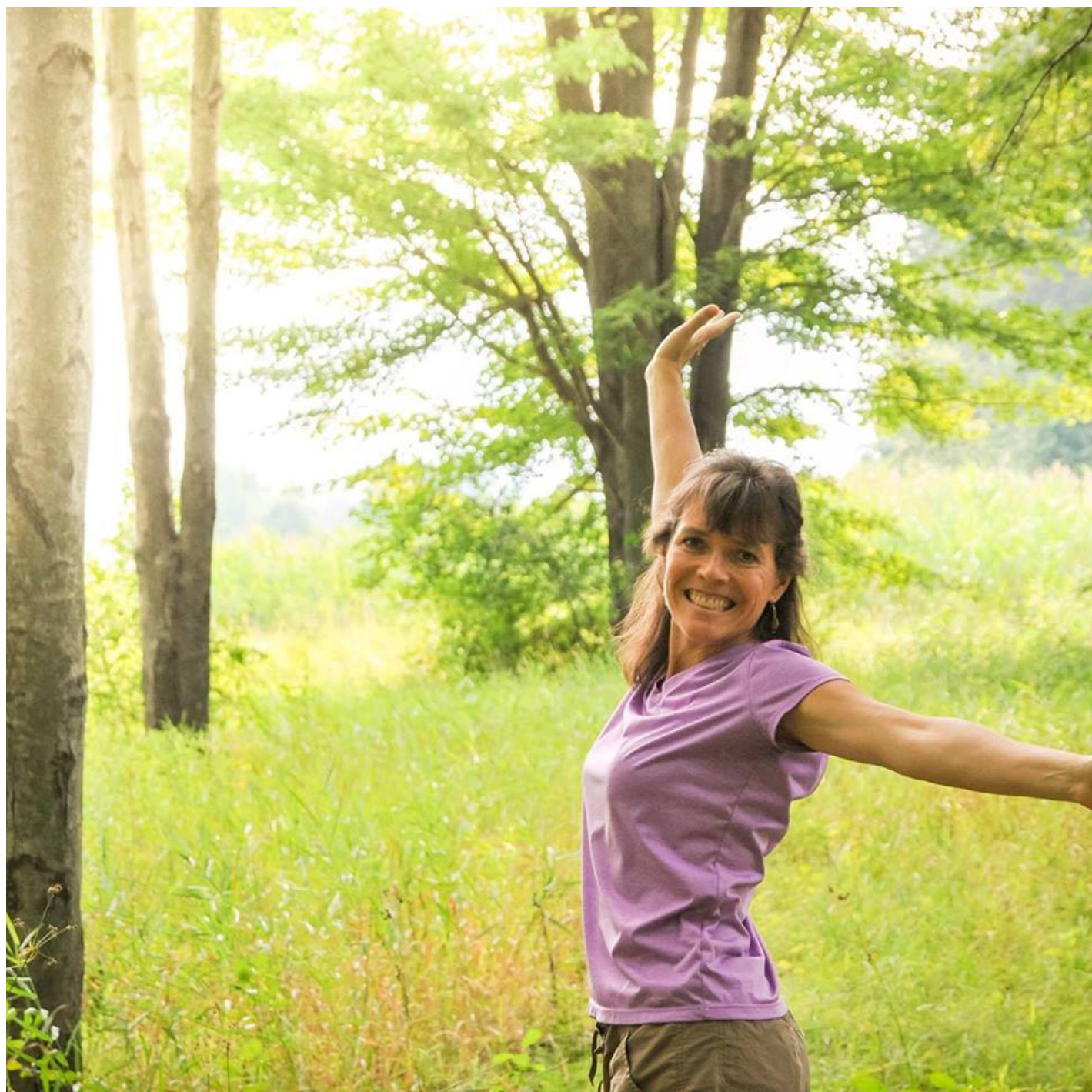
follower of Jesus. God used my flute playing to reconcile me to Him and to help many people find healing. Music continues to be my daily avenue to connect with my Savior and to bring His presence to His followers. I am currently providing Music Therapy to Alzheimer's patients at a local assisted living center, playing flute with the worship teams at Celebration and giving private and class flute instruction through the Worship Arts Ministry.

I feel so blessed that the church leaders and elders at Celebration have eagerly supported the Worship Arts Ministry. We have offered classes in Music, Dance, Art and Sign Language for fourteen years and I pray daily that we will follow the Holy Spirit's leading for this ministry wherever that may take us

"Let them praise His name with dancing and make music to him. Let the saints rejoice in this honor and sing for joy on their beds" Psalms 149: 3-5

Contact: [mrussellccwam@gmail.com](mailto:mrussellccwam@gmail.com)







Katy Correll – Media & Design

I was born and raised in East Tennessee and have taken dance at Celebration since I was 4. I accepted Christ at the age of 5, so I believe it's never too early to introduce Christ to little



ones and teach them how to worship Him even at their age. When I was 8, I was baptized by my father here at Celebration and have continued to be active in the youth group and church ever since. Now at 18, I recently graduated from Tri-Cities Christian Schools and am excited to head off to Furman University – where I've been accepted into their honors program to study Spanish while on the Pre-Medicine track, as I plan to attend medical school afterwards. My passions are working with children and helping in the medical field because I have hopes to be a pediatrician one day possibly in the mission field!

In 2012, I was asked to assist in Worship Arts classes and I fell in love with the place where students came to expand their creativity by way of worshipping our Savior. Ever since, I haven't been able to leave! At one point, I had taken on all of the pre-dance classes. In March of 2015, I gained a new title through Worship Arts as the intern, ever expanding my love for this ministry. I truly had my thumb right on the heartbeat of what God was doing here at Celebration Church and specifically through the arts. In July 2017, I handed my intern duties over as I am following the Lord's leading to further my education at Furman University. I wasn't able to let go of everything WAM, as I now am in charge of all website upkeep, social media avenues, & graphic design. This has been such a fun experience as I get to understand how a ministry operates from an administration stand point! My love for dance and teaching the next generation of worshippers fits perfectly into my job here.

Contact: [katy@cctri.org](mailto:katy@cctri.org).

Victoria Ward - WAM Intern & Pre-Dance 2/3's & 4/5's Assistant Teacher

Hello beautiful souls! I am so honored and thrilled to be the new Worship Arts Intern, as well as, Assistant Teacher for the littles this year! Worshipping Jesus, in any form, brings my heart great delight. I am looking forward to serving alongside a wonderful team of God-honoring leaders!

I am 21 years old and grew up in Georgia for 10 of my 21 years! In those 10 years in Georgia, the heat reached well over 100 degrees and the beautiful, long summer nights never seemed to end. My sisters and I had dance parties as we were growing up, which included dancing ridiculously to "Kung Fu Fighting," "The Water Buffalo Song," "The Hairbrush Song" and many other silly songs! I always knew my love for dance was something God had placed in me

since He formed me in my mother's womb (Psalm 139:13) and bringing Him honor and praise through dance fills my heart with joy! I have a passion to teach the overwhelming love of our Heavenly Father to as many children as the Lord allows. Abba has allowed me to be a camp counselor at Bancroft Bible Camp and I am a nursing student with a concentration in midwifery... There isn't a bodily fluid that I haven't encountered already! (lol, oh the life of a nursing student and camp counselor... 😊 )

I began taking Ballet and Hip-Hop from Celebration's dance ministry which deepened my passion for dance. I took dance for six years, all the while learning about God's love and heart for His children. My heart was drawn closer to the Father's as I danced and I truly believe dancing was (is) one of the ways God speaks to my soul and brings healing to my heart. I enjoy teaching and serving others and watching their love for Abba increase more and more! Because "For out of His fullness we have all received, and grace upon grace." John 1:16

Contact: [vwardccwam@gmail.com](mailto:vwardccwam@gmail.com)







**Worship Arts would not be the same**

**without all of our wonderful teachers! We love them!**



Abi Bell - Tap 1 Lead Teacher & Tap 2 Assistant Teacher

A LIST OF FACTS ABOUT ABI BELL:

1. Abi is a human person. Definitely not a list-making robot.
2. The Abi-bot 3000 is programmed with the ability to tap dance.



3. Wait, no, I meant, Abi the Human Person has been dancing for thirteen years and teaching for five and has actual real dance experience, like a real human person. Which she is.
4. Abi is 21 units old. Years. I mean years.
5. Abi is deeply involved in local community theatre, both on and offstage; she is currently studying Musical Theatre at Emory and Henry.
6. Abi loves teaching kids and is excited to be returning to teach Tap 1!
7. On a completely unrelated note, robots can feel excitement! And love. Not that I'm a robot.
8. Abi enjoys singing, dancing, acting, reading, writing, petting cats, breathing oxygen, eating bread, and other human activities.
9. Abi is a human.
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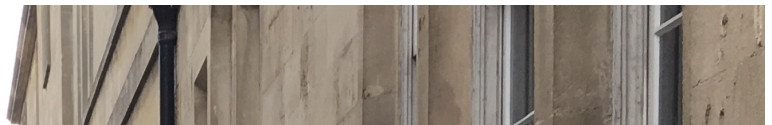
Contact: [abelccwam@gmail.com](mailto:abelccwam@gmail.com)

Barbara Bell - Art Lead Teacher

I'm Barbara Bell and I like to make things. Born and raised in Ohio, as a teenager I moved to Canada with my family, where I met and married my husband, Peter. In 2005, we moved to Tennessee.

I'm a member of the Kingsport Art Guild and the Overmountain Weavers' Guild, and I participate in the local Makers community. Drawing, painting, sewing, knitting, spinning yarn, making dolls in fabric and paper mache, making things from clay, and storytelling are some of my favorite activities. Lookinf forward to a creative fall, winter, and spring full of artistic endeavors with the Worship Arts Ministry at Celebration!

Contact: [bbellcwam@gmail.com](mailto:bbellcwam@gmail.com)









Debbie Bennett - Rhythm/Movement Fitness Instructor

I feel so privileged to be a part of the Worship Arts Ministry and to create a fitness class that incorporates several different elements from classes I've taught or participated in over the years. Combining my love for praise and worship with whole body conditioning is a dream come true!

I've always enjoyed staying active through different sports and activities which includes snow skiing, playing tennis, hiking, bike riding, and the exercise classes I've taken here and there. I've gradually moved away from high impact and dance classes to programs that work on core body conditioning, flexibility and balance (adaptable to any skill level and any age). I want participants to feel challenged physically while also feeling refreshed mentally and spiritually. Our bodies are an offering of praise to our Heavenly Father.  
"In Him we live and move and have our being" Acts 17:28

I am wife to Keith, mother to one son and two married daughters, AND recently became Nana to identical twin granddaughters! Keith and I love to travel ...to visit our children in Atlanta, Chicago and Anchorage, AK, and to lots of interesting places here and abroad! We've long been involved with small group ministry. It has been a consistent thread throughout our lives and has made a huge impact on our spiritual growth and friendships.

I hope to meet you soon!

Contact: [debbieb317@gmail.com](mailto:debbieb317@gmail.com)

Kim Cox - Sign Language 1 Lead Teacher

I grew up in Greeneville, Tennessee. I just recently moved to Blountville, Tennessee last year. I just finished my bachelors degree in Social Work at East Tennessee State University this past May, 2017. Also, have two other degrees of Associate of Applied Science in Office Systems Technology and Small Business Management and two certificates in Data Entry and Secretarial Office Procedures from Northeast State Technical Community College. I currently volunteer at Adult Day Services in Johnson City and do a special craft with the clients once a

month. I am very active in my church at Calvary Baptist Church in Kingsport. I am a Sunday School teacher for the Nursery. Also, help with several other ministries including the signing team, extended service nursery (once a month), VBS, Community Services, etc.

I was born deaf but never learned sign language till attending Northeast State Technical Community College. I was mainstreamed into the regular classrooms with hearing peers. I struggled during my childhood years in school, it was not easy having to depend fully on lip reading. But I conquered it. I enjoy being around people and helping others. I love music and have always wanted to learn to play a musical instrument but not being able to hear has affected my ability to play any instruments. I love to knit, embroidery, paint, color, make pottery, create things, and much more. As a member of the signing team at Calvary Baptist it has been a blessing to see what God is planning for us in 2018.

Learning Sign Language has been the best thing for me because before as a child I would go to church with my grandmother but I was not understanding much at all what was being said. I never understood that I needed Salvation or anything till I was 19 years old and it was with the help of my interpreter at Northeast State who told me about God the Father, the Holy Spirit, and Jesus. I received Christ in my heart at the age of 19 on October 11, 1993. Sign Language is the only reason I was able to get the degrees I have.

Now I have more hearing than I have ever had in my entire life. I am bilaterally implanted with Cochlear Implants. I tell this story because we never knew that my ears were not formed correctly until the implants were implanted. The surgeon who did my implants he was just pondering when I went for my post opt surgery for my first cochlear implant. He said he never seen anything like it, my reply was what do you mean? He said I don't know how you ever heard with a hearing aid before because you don't have the spiral bone in your cochlea. I replied with well it was the man (God) upstairs. He agreed with me. God is the only reason why I am where I am today. Reason I say that I have been through so much just in the last 2-3 years since I have lost both of my parents, having to adjust to living on my own, and moving out of my childhood home.

Contact: [kcoxccwam@gmail.com](mailto:kcoxccwam@gmail.com)









Ben Ellis - Fiddle Lead Teacher

I fell in love with the violin at age two in the fellowship hall of the church that I was raised in. I persisted in my desire to play the instrument continuously over the next three years. At age 5,



my parents gave me my first violin. I took lessons from that point until about age 16 and then again for a couple years as an adult. I love to play a huge variety of music, from bluegrass to classical and beyond, but my favorite music to play has been in worship be it new praise music or the old hymns. I have taught lessons since age 15.

I don't remember a time in which I didn't love Jesus. I made a profession of faith and accepted Jesus as my Lord and Savior at about age 8. I love to worship Him with my fiddle!

Contact: benthefiddler@gmail.com

Donna Good - Sign Language 2 & 3 Lead Teacher; Deaf Ministry Leader

I am Donna Good. I am the Deaf Ministry Leader at Celebration Church. I was initially drawn into Deaf ministry after seeing a teen group using sign language to express a song. I have always loved music but cannot sing or play a musician instrument; not very well anyways. But, by God's leading over 15 years ago, I took my first sign language class. My plans were to only use sign language during my personal time of worshiping God. However, it was during the first few weeks of class I learned the statistics regarding the Deaf and Salvation. Those stats are: in the upper 8 counties of NETN there are estimated to be 55,000 deaf and hard of hearing. Of that 55,000 only about 5% attend a church service regularly. Of the 5% church deaf population only about 1% truly has a relationship with Jesus. Those same statistics hold true across the world: only 1% of 5% of millions of deaf know how wonderful, loving, faithful, and forgiving our God is.

God's promise in scripture, Isaiah 55: 8-9 has been proven true in my signing journey.

8 "My thoughts are nothing like your thoughts," says the LORD.

"And my ways are far beyond anything you could imagine.

9 For just as the heavens are higher than the earth,

so my ways are higher than your ways

and my thoughts higher than your thoughts.

I never could have imagined all the lovely people God would allow me to meet and all the amazing experiences I would have because of learning sign language.

I would truly love for you to come join me on this fascinating journey called Deaf Ministry.

Contact: [dgoodccwam@gmail.com](mailto:dgoodccwam@gmail.com)







Hannah Grisenti – MS/HS Choir Accompanist

I'm so blessed to have the privilege of accompanying the middle & high school choir this fall! I have been taking piano lessons for close to 9 years now and I am so excited to be able to use the gift I have been given to bless others and to give glory to God.

I have lived in North-East Tennessee all my life and have attended Celebration Church with



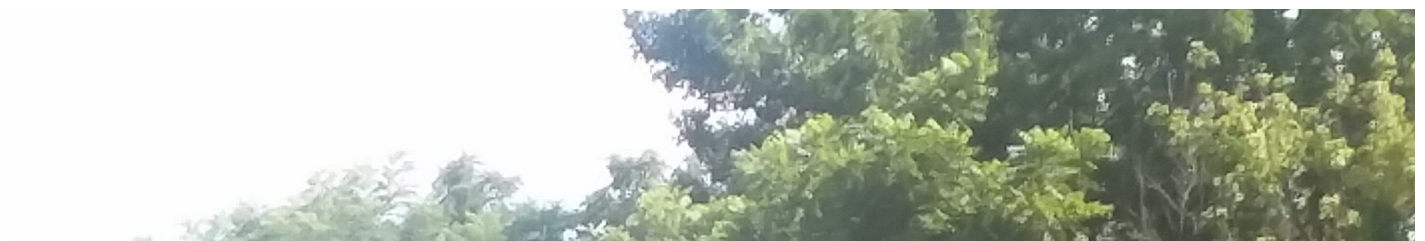
my family for over 15 years. I accepted Christ as my personal Lord and Savior at the age of 5 and have sought to honor Him with every aspect of my life ever since. At the age of 17, I will be a senior in high-school this fall and plan to continue my music studies after I graduate next spring.

Contact: [hgrisenticcwam@gmail.com](mailto:hgrisenticcwam@gmail.com)

Taylor Kitzmiller (Royston) - Adult Ballet & Pre-Dance 2/3s Lead Teacher

I am so excited to be apart of the Worship Arts team at Celebration! I began dance at the age of 3 and have been dancing ever since. Types of dance I have studied include ballet, tap, jazz, hiphop, contemporary, & tumbling. I have done studio dance my whole life, but when I began college, I was presented with the opportunity to be a part of the ETSU dance team throughout my four years as a student. Now that I have graduated from ETSU, I am ready to start the next chapter in my life. I am so thankful that the Lord has led me to Worship Arts and is allowing me to continue to use my love for dance as an expression of love for Him. Throughout all my life, be it good times or bad, dance has always been there for me. Dance has allowed me to express thoughts, feelings, and emotions in ways words would not allow. For me, dance is a passion and I am happy to be able to share that passion with everyone and use my talent to worship the Lord. I am eager to see how He allows us to grow in dance and in worship.









Shane Leonard - Guitar & Ukulele Lead Teacher



I truly love teaching music. My goal is to help every student learn and have fun doing a hobby that can give a life time of enjoyment while praising our Heavenly Father. I have been playing guitar for over 30 years and teaching professionally for more than 10 years. I studied classical guitar and theory at ETSU. I teach all ages and any style of music. Instruments offered are guitar, ukulele, bass, banjo and mandolin.

Contact: [sleonardccwam@gmail.com](mailto:sleonardccwam@gmail.com)

#### Aidan Moore - Drums/Percussion Lead Teacher

My name is Aidan Moore and I am a senior in high school from Bristol, TN. I have been playing percussion and drums in the high school youth band of Celebration Church since I was in the 7th grade. Drums are my true passion. Eric Liddell once said, "When I run, I feel God's pleasure." I feel this way about worshipping God through percussion. Last school year, 2016-2017, I had the honor and privilege of teaching percussion with Celebration Church Worship Arts Ministry. This year, I will be teaching the class again and we will be focusing on the building blocks of rhythm and percussion. We will lock in on tempo, rhythm, and dynamics. I'm ecstatic to teach the kids how to build the canvas of percussion on which they can paint with the creativity and joy of the Lord.

Contact: [amooreccwam@gmail.com](mailto:amooreccwam@gmail.com)









Elisa Nanney - Pre-Dance 2/3's & Ballet 1 Assistant Teacher

Hi, I am Elisa Nanney and almost 14 years old. My hobbies are hiking, biking, singing, acting and especially dancing. I am so excited to be working with WAM this year and being able to worship Jesus through dance. I look forward to meeting all of you and seeing what God has in store for us!

Contact: [enanneyccwam@gmail.com](mailto:enanneyccwam@gmail.com)

Debbie Neilson - Lead Tumbling 3-5s, 1, & 2 Coach

I have been coaching gymnastics for 37 years am currently a national instructor and a national ranked judge for USA gymnastics.

After competing myself, I owned a gymnastics gym for 15 years. I eventually sold the gym

and became the head Cheerleading and Dance Coach for King University.

This is my fifth year as lead tumbling coach at Celebration Church and I am SO excited to work with our new students!







Peggy Oelberg - MS/HS Choir & Voice Lead Teacher

My Mom said that I was always singing no matter where we went ... in the car, at home, at other peoples' home, etc. in my home city of Dallas. Sometimes it drove her crazy! When I was 14, I took lessons from an old, strict woman. When she heard that I was also cheerleading and blowing out my voice, she said I would have to make a choice – voice or cheerleading. Cheerleading it was. When I went to college at Stephens College in Columbia, Missouri, I majored in Voice. I had another strict voice teacher who scared me to death. Not a lot of positive voice experiences in my youth. When I was about 28, I went back to college and had a voice teacher who taught me through imagery. "If you can see it in your mind, you can do it." She was wonderful and caring. I finally understood, and it opened up a whole new

world to me in voice. It is the same way I teach today. After having two wonderful sons, I finally went back to college in San Diego and finished my degree in my 40's. I taught Junior and Senior High choir in California and Montana. My husband is a retired pastor, and we

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## CONTACT

Allison Pigeon - Ballet 1 & 2 Lead Teacher

I am currently a student at Northeast State Community College and will be graduating in May with my associates degree in Animal Science. Next fall I plan on transferring to Tennessee Tech in Cookeville, TN. I have been dancing since I was 3 at Appalachian Dance Academy. I absolutely love to dance and being able to use dance to worship my God has been an amazing opportunity. I have had the pleasure of teaching ballet for Celebration Church for two years now. I am very excited to be teaching again this year! It always brings a smile to my face when my students come to class excited to show me that they practiced what we learned last week and are ready to learn something new.

Contact: [apigeonccwam@gmail.com](mailto:apigeonccwam@gmail.com)







Rhonda Reedy - Pre-Dance 2/3's & 4/5's Lead Teacher

I am so excited to be a part of Celebration's Worship Arts Ministry this year!

As a lifelong resident of East Tennessee I began my dancing career at the age of 5 at Holloway School of Dance taking tap, jazz, & ballet. Starting my Freshman year in high school I started dancing for Academy of Dance Arts, I became an assistant dance teacher my Sophomore year of high school then a full time teacher starting my Junior year teaching jazz, tap, and beginning ballet from 1983-2000. During my dance career, I have performed many years in Showtime during FunFest, competed in various dance competitions both as a dancer and as a choreographer, and worked at Carowinds as the "dancing" Captain Caveman during the summer of 1991. In 1997, I started my career at Eastman and had to give up my teaching career a couple years later due to going on shift work.



In my spare time I enjoy spending time with Family, riding my motorcycle, and hanging with my friends!

I am very blessed to have the opportunity, once again, to do what I love.....DANCE.....and bring the joy of dance into the lives of the kiddos! :)

Contact: [rreedycwam@gmail.com](mailto:rreedycwam@gmail.com)

Alice Tompkins - Adult Choir Director; Piano, Voice, Guitar, & Ukulele Lead Teacher

A lifelong love of teaching and enjoying music has been a non-stop passion of mine! The piano/keyboard is a tool---and a very effective one at that---to instill the same love of music, learning, and worship into the next generation!

I am a teacher of music, Certified K-12 with a B.S. in Music Education from the University of Tennessee, and a Master's Degree in Curriculum and Instruction from Carson Newman University. My teaching experience includes all ages, having most recently taught in a PreK-8th grade school for the last 11 years. Additionally, I have taught piano/voice/guitar/ukulele privately, public school general music and chorus, and graded church choir programs. I am now adding pre-school keys (Wunderkeys) and applied music theory to that list of choices.

Wunderkeys is a great curriculum---although that word is very serious and stuffy in describing the fun your preschool child will have in this "sponge-like" season of his life. Consider taking advantage of this brief window of opportunity for your child to develop a lifelong love of music, and give her a head start in music, math, and life!

Contact: [alice.tompkins@charter.net](mailto:alice.tompkins@charter.net)





Macey Upchurch - Tumbling 3-5's, 1, & 2 Assistant Teacher; Pre-Dance 4/5's Assistant Teacher

I started my dance career at Celebration and I am beyond excited to say that I get to come back and help out in some classes. I am a sophomore at Sullivan Central High School. i have 13 years dance experience and I cheer competitively at East Tennessee Cheer. I am excited to be a part of the WAM team this year, It's going to be a great year!

Contact: [maceyupchurchccwam@gmail.com](mailto:maceyupchurchccwam@gmail.com)

Connie Ward - Serve & Pray Coordinator

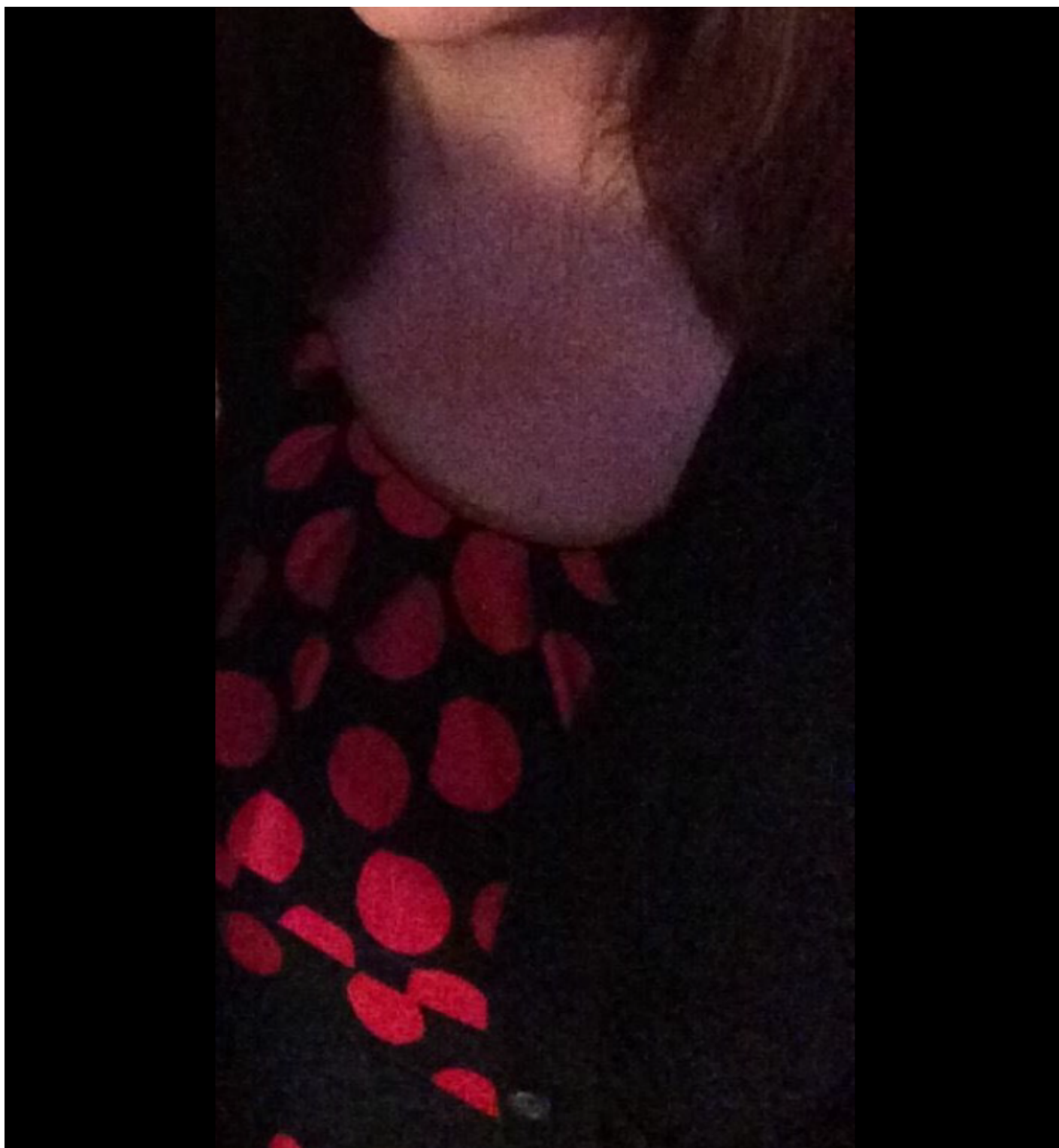


I was born to worship. For as long as I can remember I have had a passion for dance, a great love for music, an appreciation for art in many forms from beautiful buildings and statues to paintings and pictures of the beautiful things of nature, but above all, I love to worship our Creator and Savior. Worship is a lifestyle for me, of following Him wherever He leads, performing the acts He has asked me to, praying and interceding for His people.

The Lord has blessed me with a wonderful family. I've been married to the same man for 38 years and God has given us five beautiful daughters and four grandchildren. I've attended Celebration for 11 years and worked with various ministries throughout the church. I am currently assisting the Incumbent team in various ways, overseeing the Café volunteers, and now will be involved with the prayer and helps aspect of the Worship Arts Ministry. I'm very excited for the coming year and all God has for us as we endeavor to lift up the name of Jesus through the arts.

Contact: [cwardccwam@gmail.com](mailto:cwardccwam@gmail.com)









Alyssa Zollo - Tap 1 Assistant Teacher

Hi! My name is Alyssa Zollo. I am a 7th grade student at Innovation Academy, which is great for me because I love science and math. Anything that has to do with music and dancing makes me happy. I began dancing at Celebration when I was just 4 years old. I am so excited to share my love for Jesus and music and dance with younger children.

Contact: [azollocwam@gmail.com](mailto:azollocwam@gmail.com)

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Class Schedule & Tuition



Class Registration



Leadership & Teaching Staff



Upcoming Events



Esther



Arts Adventure



RiseUp Worship Arts Camp



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Worship Arts Calendar





**SATURDAY NIGHT**

6:30pm

**SUNDAY MORNING**

9:30 & 11:15am

**INCURRENT MILLENIAL MINISTRY**

9:30am Sundays

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT**

6:30pm (*Dinner is served between 4:30-6:15pm in the Summit Lobby*)

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